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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,528	02/25/2004	Murali P. Kaundinya	SUN03-13(040484)	2781

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EXAMINER
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DOAN, PHUOC HUU

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/786,528	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KAUNDINYA, MURALI P.	
	<b>Examiner</b> PHUOC H. DOAN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2617	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 8, 13-16, 21 and 26-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-7, 9-12, 17-20 and 22-25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                               | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                      | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1-3, 8, 13-16, 21, and 26-29** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Allen (US Pub No: 2005/0219039)** in view of **McLean (US Patent No: 6,486,769)**.

As to **claim 1, 14, and 27-29**, Allen discloses a method for identifying topology for RFID deployment comprising: receiving spatial parameters of an area operable for RFID management (page 1, par. [0005]; **management system using transponders associated with specific products**); identifying attributes of a transceiver operable within the area for RFID management (page 3, par. [0033]; **RFID tag provide a unique identifier and interrogated with transceiver**), the transceiver operable for communication with a plurality of transponders (page 1, par. [0005]; **the use of short range radio transponders built into each product**); and determining a location for disposing each a plurality of the transceivers within

the area, determining further comprising: computing, based on the identified attributes (page 5, par. [0005]; **to uniquely identify each product, upon interrogation by a fixed interrogation transponder at the dealer's location**), a readability zone for each of the plurality of transponders indicative of readability by a transceiver (page 3, par. [0035]); and calculating "page 2, par. [0017]; **calculating all the RFID tags have all successfully been identified**", based on the readability zone and the spatial parameters (page 4, par. [0044]; **tag is moving, the read zone controlled by maximum read rang**). However, Allen does not disclose placement for each of the transceivers within the area, the calculated placement providing transponder coverage within the area.

In the same field of endeavor, McLean discloses that placement for each of the transceivers within the area (col. 4, lines 3-16), the calculated placement providing transponder coverage within the area (col. 4, lines 25-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide placement for each of the transceivers within the area, the calculated placement providing transponder coverage within the area as taught by McLean to the system of Allen in order to automate the ongoing maintenance of these RFID system by using coding tags.

As to claim 2, 15, McLean further discloses the method of claim 1 wherein computing the readability zone further comprises: identifying spatial modifiers for a particular transceiver (See Abstract "**spatial dimensions is a spatial parameters to define of a read zone and no read zone using coding/programmable checktags "transceiver/transponser"**"); applying the identified spatial modifiers to the identified attributes to generate deployment attributes (col. 2, lines 2-5); and modifying the placement of at least one of the transceivers according to the generated deployment attributes (col. 4, lines 22-28).

As to claim 3, 16, McLean further discloses the method of claim 1 wherein the identified attributes further include a range, and computing the readability zone includes identifying a reflection from the transponder (col. 2, lines 3-6), further comprising: adjusting the readability zone based on an interference effect from the type of transponder coverage material; and adjusting the placement of the transponder according the adjusted readability zone and a resulting effect on the range (See col. 2, lines 35-51).

As to claim 8, 21, McLean further discloses comprising defining the spatial parameters to include: an outer perimeter boundary of the area, location defined as

portion of the area; adjacency of each of the locations to other locations; and physical impediments within the area operable to modify the zone of readability of at least one of the transceivers (See Fig. 1 with description; col. 4, lines 2-26).

As to claim 13, 26, McLean further discloses comprising defining a trigger corresponding to alert, the trigger operable to invoke an automated responsive action to the alert (col. 6, lines 20-38; automatic RF adjustment...if the proper signal response was not obtained).

*Allowable Subject Matter*

3. **Claims 4-7, 9-12, 17-20, and 22-25** are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 4, 17, 20, the prior art of record do not disclose the method of claim 1 further comprising: identifying a plurality of locations in the area, each of the locations having a corresponding transceiver; disposing each of the transponders in a particular location, each of the transponders appurtenant to a predetermined object; and disposing the corresponding transceiver in each of the identified

locations, the transceivers disposed in communication with the transponders disposed in that location.

**As to claim 6, 9, 19**, the prior art of record does not disclose the method of claim 1 further comprising: aggregating, for a plurality of transponders, the readability zone of each of the transponders; demarcating a location so as to maximize inclusion of the zone of readability of each of the transponders in the demarcated location; and disposing the transceiver corresponding to the location such that the transceiver is in the zone of readability for a substantial maximum of the transponders in the location.

**As to claim 10, 23**, the prior art of the record does not disclose the method of claim 1 further comprising: receiving information concerning the readability zone, spatial parameters, and transponder attributes; aggregating the received information to compute coverage information indicative of transceivers operable to be disposed in the readability zone of each of the transponders; and determining placement of transceivers within the area according to the readability zone of each of the transceivers augmented by the aggregated information.

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As to **claim 12, 25**, the prior art of record does not disclose the method of claim 1 further comprising: identifying a particular location and corresponding transceiver; identifying transponders readable by the transceiver; identifying an adjacent location operable to be accessed from the particular location; identifying the transceiver corresponding to the adjacent location; and defining an alert corresponding to detection of an identified transponder being disposed from the particular location to the adjacent location.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUOC H. DOAN whose telephone number is 571-272-7920. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM.

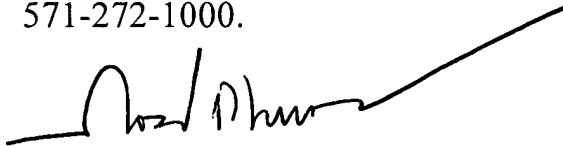
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOSEPH FEILD can be reached on 571-272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Phuoc Doan  
12/13/07



JOSEPH FEILD  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER